

Reading comprehension.

A- FOR QUESTIONS 1-8, read the text below and choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Zoologist Lucy Cooke draws attention to some of the world's least attractive animals.

Which species pulls at your heartstrings – a panda or a toad? A lion or a dung beetle? When it comes to emotional attachment, research funding, global popularity and conservation support, the fluffier your fur and the bigger your eyes, the better your chances – unless zoologist Lucy Cooke has a vote. She's on a one-woman mission to show the world why some of the most unlovable animals are actually the most interesting and deserving of our attention, study and protection.

Cooke's popular blogs, online videos, films and TV programmes bring her characteristic sense of humour and unusual storytelling style to a serious message: If we only care for the best known and best loved species, other enormously important parts of the web of life could vanish forever. With her unconventional attitude, she's taking advantage of the power of the internet to reach a new audience that more traditional wildlife programmes have yet to tap.

'My goal is to persuade the unconvinced,' says Cooke. 'A lot of conservation messages are difficult to hear; they make people feel guilty. I think humour is the sugar coating that helps people swallow the pill. If you manage to make someone laugh while you tell them something important, they'll stick around and listen to more.'

Cooke worries about what she calls 'the tyranny of the cute'. 'There are so many television shows about koala bears and kittens,' she observes. 'All the attention seems focused on a handful of charismatic "celebrity" animals. Even scientists get less funding for animals that aren't sweet and cuddly. In fact, large mammal species appear in 500 times as many articles in scientific journals as threatened amphibians.' She adds: 'Weird, freaky creatures fascinate me because they tell an amazing evolutionary story. I'm interested in all of nature, not just the shiny, fluffy bits.'

Amphibians – animals like frogs that live both on land and in water – top Cooke's list. 'Over a third of amphibians are going extinct; it's the worst extinction crisis since the dinosaurs were wiped off the planet. Yet I couldn't convince anyone to commission a film about it. That motivated me to start my Amphibian Avenger blog.' The widely read blog showcases creatures that rarely attract the spotlight. 'Frogs are such a fascinating miracle of evolution that I could study them forever.'

Amphibians also occupy a crucial spot in the middle of the food chain. 'If you remove them, everything else goes haywire,' she notes. 'When amphibians go extinct, birds and snakes that eat them also disappear. Since amphibians breathe through their delicate skin, they are very vulnerable to pollution, climate change, and disease. That makes them fantastic barometers of the health of ecosystems. If amphibians aren't doing well, chances are their overall environment is sick.'

One of Cooke's most popular online videos is about sloths – extremely slow-moving mammals that live in trees. Cooke would like to help elevate the status of sloths, animals that she insists are unfairly laughed at and misunderstood. 'They've always had a reputation for being lazy and stupid.' In fact, 'slothfulness' is the key to the animal's success. A slow metabolism allows the sloth's liver to process poisonous substances found in the leaves it eats. Moving slowly also keeps it hidden from predators. 'My video showed the world how interesting they are,' Cooke says.

The wobbly-nosed proboscis monkey, dung beetles, bats and more get their moment in the sun thanks to Cooke. 'It's about telling their stories in a way that engages a wider audience. I want people to share my sense of wonder, amazement and love for these creatures. Once you understand why they're ugly or odd, I hope you'll appreciate and want to save them as much as I do.'

31 What are we told about Cooke in the second paragraph?

- A** She hopes to make more conventional nature documentaries in the future.
- B** She is communicating her ideas to people who have not heard them before.
- C** Her approach is more suited to the internet than to other media.
- D** Her manner shows a lack of concern about the problems she mentions.

32 According to Cooke, what is many people's attitude to nature conservation?

- A They are embarrassed at their lack of knowledge of the subject.
- B They are reluctant to think about the subject.
- C They find it hard to take the subject seriously.
- D They are tired of hearing so much about it.

33 What is Cooke's main point in the fourth paragraph?

- A It is a mistake to limit the types of species that are studied carefully.
- B Too much research is being done into animals that are endangered.
- C Scientists are wasting public money on unnecessary animal studies.
- D Television programmes rarely concentrate on larger species.

34 Cooke says she started her Amphibian Avenger blog because

- A she wanted to raise funds to make a film.
- B she felt inspired to start a search for a new species.
- C she realised she would have to inform people herself.
- D she knew she would always have something interesting to write about.

35 What does 'goes haywire' in line 27 mean?

- A tends to do better
- B carries on as it always has
- C finds ways of coping
- D stops working as it should

36 Cooke's video about sloths is an example of

- A why she believes it is more important to save some animals rather than others.
- B how other scientists have been unwilling to tell people about their work.
- C how she is trying to change people's minds.
- D why some animals deserve their reputation.

B- Put each verb in brackets into an appropriate verb form.

<https://www.baamboozle.com/game/35665>

C. For questions 1-8 read the text below and decide which answer (a, b, c or d) best fits each gap. There is an example

at the beginning (0)

Example:

0 A whole B complete C full D entire

0	A	B	C	D
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How well do you sleep?

Do you need (0) silence to sleep well at night? While some people can sleep through a great deal of noise, others are woken up by the (1) sound. It appears that as we sleep, our brains produce rapid pulses, or waves, called 'sleep spindles'. Research has (2) that our ability to sleep soundly may (3) on the number of sleep spindles we produce.

Scientists conducted a three-day study on 12 volunteers, all of whom (4) themselves as good sleepers. On the first night, the scientists (5) the volunteers sleep in silence. On the following nights, however, they were subjected to various noises, ranging from the sound of a (6) tap to jet engine roars.

Measurements of brain activity showed that the participants who reacted least to the noise were the ones who produced more sleep spindles, (7) on the quiet night. It is hoped that this discovery will (8) to new ways to help people who have difficulty sleeping.

1 A lightest	B finest	C slightest	D weakest
2 A exposed	B revealed	C displayed	D uncovered
3 A depend	B involve	C rest	D base
4 A assured	B declared	C claimed	D described
5 A permitted	B agreed	C let	D allowed
6 A pouring	B running	C streaming	D flowing
7 A even	B precisely	C still	D exactly
8 A head	B take	C guide	D lead

D. For questions 1-8, read the text and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only ONE word in each gap.
There is an example at the beginning (0)

Europe's giant sand dune

On the Atlantic coast of France, about 60 km from the city of Bordeaux, there is a giant sand dune known (0) 'La Dune du Pilat'. Around 110 m high, 3 km long and 500 m wide, it is (9) famous that it receives about a million visitors a year. It is not (10) the largest sand dune in Europe, but is also moving away from the coast (11) an average rate of nearly 5 m a year. Over (12) last 57 years, it has travelled 280 m inland. This is as a result (13) winds from the Atlantic blowing sand off the side facing the sea onto the side facing the land. Any roads, trees and houses that lie in its path (14) slowly being covered in sand. People (15) climb the dune are rewarded by stunning views of the coast, the forest and the Pyrenees mountains. And they can choose (16) walk, run or roll back down!

E.- Rewrite the sentences using the words given. Use between two and five words, including the word given.

You are not allowed to smoke indoors at any time. You ... mustn't smoke ..indoors at any time.	MUST
Perhaps, there is a good chance of him winning a gold medal very soon. He... _____ gold medal very soon.	MIGHT
I am afraid, you can't use your cell phone inside the bank. You _____ use your cell phone inside the bank	ALLOWED
I suggest that you finish your test within the time allowed. You ... should finish your test ... within the time allowed.	SHOULD
I passed my Italian exam without studying. I... didn't need to study ...to pass my Italian exam.	NEED
She could not speak German until she took an intensive course. She _____ German until she took an intensive course.	ABLE
You should stop smoking . You... ought to stop ...smoking.	OUGHT

F. Complete the sentences with the correct prepositions.

1. I was speechless when I saw my dog all covered _____ blood.
2. Peter really care _____ about designer clothes.
3. She is suffering the quarantine since she is very attached _____ her grandma.
4. Students should not be rude _____ their classmates.
5. They are interested _____ Politics.
6. They are jealous _____ their neighbors because they are eating barbecue.

G. Complete the sentences with the correct form or a phrasal verb.

Look up to	Look for	Look after	Look at
	Look up	Look forward to	Look down

1. Kids _____ to ballplayers, and we need to let kids know that it is not OK to cheat.
2. She was _____ seeing the grandchildren again.
3. She thinks they _____ her because she doesn't have a job.
4. He'd always _____ ed _____ to his uncle.
5. Does anybody _____ slang words in the dictionary?
6. We _____ the neighbours' cat while they're away.
7. _____ me! I am trying to explain how this works.

H. Choose the correct answer.

1. Quito is a city which is rich culture.
A of B in C from D with

2. Susan mamushkas as a hobby.
A collects C assembles
B maintains D preserves

3. That sweater would look great on you. Try it on!
A pale C pointed
B skinny D striped

4. That top over there would look great on you.
Try it on!
A striped C skinny
B pointed D pale

5. She should advantage of this unique opportunity.
A make C have
B obtain D take

6. Mason stamps as a hobby.
A assembles C collects
B preserves D maintains

7. It is important to awareness environmental issues, including forest fire prevention
A raise C capture
B evolve D grab

8. We can see that many species are risk of extinction due to deforestation and illegal logging.

11. My father to the shops. Do you need anything?
A off B out C away D of

12. My sister is very She doesn't like talking about his achievements. She won a scholarship to Harvard University last year.
A conservative C modest
B tactless D indifferent

13. Those boots the colour of your belt.
A suit C match
B go D fit

14. Walter was extremely when he told her wife that she was not good at cooking.
A bossy C deceitful
B offensive D dull

I. Complete the sentences with a suitable word.

honour	preserve	gather	complexion
maintain	respect	assemble	fringe

1. It is important to your elders.

2. Mirtha Legrand has been able to a wonderful appearance in spite of her real age.

3. The statue a national hero.

4. Tom has a dark and blue eyes.

5. We all around the campfire and sang songs.

J. WRITING

Write an answer to ONE of the questions in this part.

1 You have just joined your local gym. Write an email to your English e-friend Jason, in which you describe a new friend you made at the school. Include details about their appearance and personality.

Write your **email** (140-190 words).

2 You have had a class discussion about noise pollution. Your teacher has asked you to write an essay on how we can reduce noise pollution. Write an essay using all the notes and making suggestions. *Noise pollution is a growing concern. How can we reduce it?*

Notes

Write about:

- 1 making quiet areas
- 2 introducing fines
- 3 (your own idea)

Write your **essay** (140-190 words).